

REMARKS

The above amendments to the above-captioned application along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Advisory Action dated March 4, 2011, and to the Final Office Action dated November 15, 2010 (USPTO Paper No. 20101104). In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to give due reconsideration to this application, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue.

Status of the Claims

As outlined above, claims 1-44 and 46-61 stand for consideration in this application. Any and all amendments to the specification and to the claims are fully supported throughout the disclosure of the invention. Applicants submit that no new matter is being introduced into this application through the submission of this response.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1, 4, 5, 6, 11-44 and 46-61 were rejected on the grounds of non-statutory, obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-16 of U.S. Patent No. 7,606,557. Applicants are hereby submitting a Terminal Disclaimer to overcome this double patenting rejection, which was previously submitted with the response of February 15, 2011. In view of this submission, Applicants submit that this rejection is hereby obviated or rendered moot.

Advisory Action

In the Advisory Action of March 4, 2011, the Terminal Disclaimer noted above was rejected on the grounds that the Terminal Disclaimer did not mention the two inventors of record. Further, as noted in the Terminal Disclaimer review Decision of February 26, 2011, it was noted that a Statement under 37 C.F.R. §3.73(b) must be submitted.

As shown in the attached, Applicants are hereby submitting Statements under 37 C.F.R. §3.73(b) with respect to the above-referenced application and US Patent No. 7,606,557, both of which are the subjects of the Terminal Disclaimer at issue. In view of said submissions,

Applicants will submit that all formality requirements have been fulfilled and that the Terminal Disclaimer should now be accepted on the merits.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner indicated that claims 2, 3-5 and 7-10 recite allowable subject matter, but are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

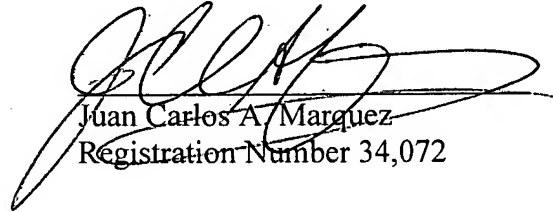
Applicants respectfully thank the Examiner for his consideration of the allowable claims. However, in view of the prior submission of the Terminal Disclaimer and the submission of the Statements under 37 C.F.R. §3.73(b), all as noted above, Applicants will submit that all the claims of record are now allowable over the prior art.

Conclusion

In view of all the above, Applicant respectfully submits that certain clear and distinct differences as discussed exist between the present invention as now claimed and the prior art references upon which the rejections in the Office Action rely. These differences are more than sufficient that the present invention as now claimed would not have been anticipated nor rendered obvious given the prior art. Rather, the present invention as a whole is distinguishable, and thereby allowable over the prior art.

Favorable reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the address and phone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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